



For Immediate Release:
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SCHOOLS OUT TODAY – WORK STARTS TOMORROW AT SCHOOLS

Watkinsville, Ga. – Georgia DOT announces new construction work will begin tomorrow in the area of Oconee Middle School for the widening of Mars Hill Road, if weather allows.

“So far not much has happened near the schools. No lane closures are planned at the School but crews will move in tomorrow to begin demolishing the existing fence and asphalt then grading and installing the new drainage system. Crews are continuing to build new culverts, grading, installation of drainage and installing new utility lines along the project,” explained Harold Mull, Georgia DOT District Construction Engineer.

The project will widen Mars Hill Road/Oconee Connector from State Route 316 to State Route 53/Hog Mountain Road improving mobility locally in Watkinsville and for the region in to and out of Clarke County. The new road will have four lanes that are 12 feet wide with a 20 feet wide grassy median. It will also have bike lanes and a sidewalk in each direction. As part of the project, a new bridge will be built over Barber Creek, replacing the existing bridge was built in 1944.

G.P.’s Enterprises of Auburn, Georgia is the Project’s Contractor. The contract completion date for this 3.299 mile long project is May 26, 2018 - 56 days were added to the overall completion date because of the delay in issuing the notice to proceed to the Contractor. The contract cost is \$26.3 million.

If you would like to receive email updates on the project please call Teri Pope at 770-718-3924 or email her at tpope@dot.ga.gov

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